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PROPAGANDA NOTES

Series A:

BULLETINS

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0X-274 22 September 1964

WARREN COMMISSION REPORT - Pelicy recommendations as stated in Prepaganda Notes issue of 22 Sept

- 1. The long awaited Warren Commission Report, on its exhausive investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963 and the subsequent murder of Lee Oswald by Jack Ruby, will be sent to the White House on Thursday September 24th and will probably be released sometime over the weekend. The Department of State is air pouching copies of the Report (based on some 20 volumes of hearings) to posts for selective presentation (upon formal release) to "editors, jurists, Government officials, other opinion-leaders" after the formal release. (See attachment, State Circular 505, 19 September 1964, joint State-USIA message, with list of recipients). Copies of this Government Printing Office edition will be sent to field stations from headquarters.
- 2. Reports from around the world indicate that there is a strong belief in many countries that the assassination of the President was the result of a "political plot"; the unwarranted interpretation that Ruby's murder of Oswald was committed to prevent Oswald from revealing the purported conspiracy adds to this belief. Communist regimes have used both murders to denigrate American society and the release of the Report will undoubtedly be used as a new peg for the same purpose.
- 3. Covert assets should explain the tragedy wherever it is genuinely misunderstood and counter all efforts to misconstrue it intentionally -- provided the depth of impact warrants such action. Communists and other extremists always attempt to prove a political conspiracy behind violence. In countries accustomed to assassination by political conspiracy, American dedication to institutions of law and government with stable administrative procedures can be described; and American Presidents can be shown to have been the victims (with the exception of Lincoln) of single, fanatical individuals.

4. Three commercial editions will be published as soon as possible after the formal release. KUWOLF/PROP has ordered 150 of Bantam's publication but will evaluate the introductions of all three and inform operating Divisions of any drawbacks. Divisions should make bulk purchases for

field use through regular channels.

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18 Sept 1964

ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS, Except LUXEMBOURG

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JOINT STATE-USIA

FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND PAO's

Arrangements made to air pouch to addressees presentation and staff copies one-volume Warren Commission Report which extremely sensitive prior formal release by White House. Copies will be separately packaged, labeled "EYES ONLY PRINCIPAL OFFICER", registered and individually pouched. Essential that each Principal Officer be responsible personally for integrity of package containing copies from receipt until formal release. Dispatch from Washington by unaccompanied pouch being timed so no copies will reach addressees earlier than two days prior to Washington release. Some addressees necessarily will receive copies following formal release.

You will receive specific notice of release time and identifying pouch containing reports.

Report should be selectively presented to editors, jurists, Government officials, and other opinion-leaders at post discretion immediately after repeat after formal release time.

USIA preparing in addition: newsreel clips, newspix, illustrated pamphlet of highlights of Report in language versions through RSC's and principal posts. Wireless File and VOA will backstop with interviews, panels, official comment, domestic and foreign editorial comments, columns and commentaries. Also possibly later 30 minutes TV documentary, and 16mm film for direct projection. Maximum post effort needed to assure foreign recognition that truth concerning assassination fully set forth in Commission's findings.

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